



**Environmental  
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor  
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor  
Scott J. Nally, Director

February 3, 2012

Mark Durno, Chief  
Emergency Response Section 1  
U.S. EPA Region V  
25089 Center Ridge Road  
Westlake, Ohio 44145

**Re: Harris-Thomas Industries Inc. Facility, Dayton Ohio**

Dear Mr. Durno:

Ohio EPA requests your assistance in conducting an emergency removal action at the abandoned **Harris-Thomas Industries Inc.** facility located at 126 Harshman Road, Dayton, Ohio. On February 2, 2012, Ohio EPA responded to a complaint of leaking materials from a building on this property.

Ohio EPA along with fire department personnel walked the large multi-floored manufacturing building finding large quantities of oil/hydraulic fluids in machine pits, numerous unidentifiable chemicals/waste in various containers and drums (some leaking) and large quantities of potentially chrome contaminated metal shavings. Of utmost concern are dismantled transformers leaking oil which has contaminated a large section of pedestrian sidewalk outside the facilities gates. The site fencing is in disrepair with obvious signs of trespassing and theft.

The greatest threat is the potential of transformer oils containing PCB's leaving the site. Other threats are potentially combustible materials and acids onsite. If a fire were started, the FD would not be able to suppress and contain the fire, and due to the hazards and exposure threats, would have to allow the structure and contents to burn. The surrounding businesses and residential areas would face an exposure risk to the chemical smoke and contaminants released during a fire. In addition, the power has been shut off in the building for an unknown period of time (presumably since late 2006). Therefore, the fire suppression system is in disrepair and leaking.

On 2 February, Steve Renninger of your office also initiated a response to facilitate action by the current owners but it is unclear if the owners will address the hazards posed by the fluids leaving the site and properly dispose of the large quantity of waste onsite. Ohio EPA views this site as an immediate threat to the surrounding community and requests U.S. EPA's assistance. George Strobel (937-285-6052) and Jeff Smith (937-285-6070) are the Ohio EPA district office contacts for the site. As always, please feel free to call me at (614) 836-8752 with any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Kevin Clouse  
Asst. Chief, Emergency Response & Special Investigations

Cc: Cindy Hafner, Chief, DERR  
Paul Pardi, DMWM, SWDO  
Dale Farmer, ER, SWDO  
Scott Shane, GFO